#25/7-170

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. 09/446.232 Request Application Number For 02/14/2000 Filing Date Continued Examination (RCE) BIGGS First Named Inventor Transmittal 1731 Art Unit ' Address to: Commissioner for Patents LOPEZ Examiner Name **Box RCE** Washington, DC 20231 BW-398-2 Attomey Docket Number This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 9, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 Previously submitted Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above Will be entered). li. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on lii. ı. Amendment/Reply iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s) ü. Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(I) required) Other FACSIMILE TRANS: FEE TRANS; EXTENSION OF TIME The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. Feeş The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) Extension of time fee (\$7 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) ü. Other ii). Check in the amount of \$ \_ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) Name (Print/Type) JOHN A SAL Date | 06/12/2003 Signature CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION I hareby cartify that the compandence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postago as first class mall in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the Site Name (Print/Type) LYNN MINTON
Signature Page I of 2

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file-and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will very depending upon the individual case. All comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Petent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Weathington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

Application: 09/446,232 ) Group: 1731

Title: SMOKING ARTICLE AND SMOKING MATERIALS THERE- ) FORE )

Inventor: Biggs et al. )

Filed: 02/14/00 )

## RCE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 111

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the office action dated December 12, 2002, please amend the above referenced application as follows: